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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Zeitz

616868

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE PREPARED

22 February 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 1

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 20 January 1954, the Infanterie Kaserne (8541) in Zeitz quartered about 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and tank insignia. On 17 January, about 800 soldiers fell in for roll call in the barracks yard. On 18 and 19 January, about 90 to 120 soldiers practiced firing with live ammunition at the training grounds on Muehlgraben.

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2. On 20 January, the Artillerie Kaserne (8542) was occupied by about 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. On 16 January, about 650 soldiers fell in for roll call in the barracks yard. T-34/85 tanks were cleaned in front of the installation. On 17 January, 11 T-34/85 tanks and 6 trucks occupied by about 120 soldiers left the installation toward Zeitz Forest. Trucks

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and tanks were identified. On 19 January, soldiers who had come from Zeitz Forest cleaned 7 T-34/85 tanks and 4 trucks in front of the installation.

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At about 3 p.m., T-34/85 tanks left again toward Zeitz Forest. 10 trucks, each towing an AT gun, departed toward Zeitz Forest during the night of 19 January.

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Comment. the 27th (?) Gds Tank Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div in the Artillerie Kaserne.

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It is possible that a tank company was temporarily stationed in Zeitz to conduct exercises in the Zeitz Forest. It seems that this forest is being used for small-scale exercises by various elements of the Eighth Gds Army.

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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW